



# CLEAN WATER INDIANA

## 2006 FALL GRANT RECIPIENTS

### Centralized Office Manager

#### **Jennings County - District Executive Director**

##### **Partners**

Jennings County Commissioners  
US Senator Richard Luger  
State Senator Johnny Nugent  
State Senator Jim Lewis

State Representative Billy Knight  
Historic Hoosier Hills RC&D  
Farm Bureau President Don Villwoch  
Farm Bureau Robert Schickel

##### **Description**

This position will serve as a Centralized Office Manager that will be a point of contact, providing the public with accurate information on federal, state and local conservation programs in a timely fashion. The director will be a liaison to county government entities such as: County Council, Commissioners, Health Department, County Highway Department and Area Plan Commission on natural resource issues to provide and enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Jennings County.

#### **LaGrange County - Clearinghouse Coordinator**

##### **Partners**

LGL Natural Resource Associates  
Pheasants Forever

##### **Description**

The goal of this position is to make the district the local hub for education, financial, and technical assistance for the application of best management practices. A new job description will be created and a new person hired to work full time in the SWCD office. This individual will be responsible for day to day operations, answering the phone, fielding questions covering all related Farm Bill programs and other programs administered by the SWCD and its partners to get more conservation on the land.

### Regional Technician

#### **DeKalb & Steuben Counties - Regional Technician**

##### **Partners**

DeKalb County SWCD  
The Nature Conservancy  
Saint Joe River Watershed Initiative

Steuben County SWCD  
DeKalb County Government  
NRCS

##### **Description**

This technical position will assist existing Indiana Conservation Partnership staff in the promotion, design, and installation of conservation BMPs within DeKalb and Steuben Counties, with special emphasis in priority sub-watersheds. All conservation cost-share programs available will be promoted including but not limited to: Federal Farm Bill Programs, IDNR-Lake and River Enhancement, Saint Joe River Watershed Initiative Grant Projects, The Nature Conservancy Projects, Great Lakes Commission Projects and those of local SWCDs. Technical assistance provided by this position will ensure the timely delivery of Partnership services while increasing acres of conservation applied to the land.

## **Marion & Hamilton Counties – Central Indiana Watershed Coordinator**

### **Partners**

Hamilton County SWCD  
Hoosier Heartland RC&D

Indiana Wildlife Federation  
Eagle Creek Watershed Alliance

### **Description**

This grant will enable the Marion County SWCD to provide a Watershed Coordinator staff position to assist with ongoing watershed and water quality efforts within central Indiana. The Boone, Hamilton, Hendricks, and Marion County SWCDs, have an ongoing IDEM funded watershed project on Eagle Creek Watershed. Marion County is soon expected to have a project on Fall Creek that will also affect parts of Hamilton County. Hamilton County SWCD also has a LARE grant. The Central Indiana Watershed Coordinator position will work to support these ongoing projects by providing staff support, equipment, supplies, and material costs for technical assistance and educational information dissemination assistance to assist landowners and community organizations with community watershed planning needs.

## **Program Marketing**

### **Adams, Allen & Wells Counties - Conservation Opportunities in Rural Northeast (C.O.R.N.)**

#### **Partners**

Wells Co. SWCD  
Allen Co. SWCD  
Purdue Extension (Adams, Allen, Wells)

Harvest Land CO-OP  
Ag Plus  
Mercer Landmark Inc.

#### **Description**

The SWCD's recently met with community agricultural leaders during a locally led Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) meeting. Attendees were asked "What is your greatest conservation need in agriculture?" The most frequent answers were "FUNDING", and a better understanding of available program funding sources. Based on these responses we came up with the C.O.R.N. program. We would like to hire a Conservation Program Marketing Specialist who would partner with Ag retailers to promote conservation programs. The marketing specialist will participate on the agenda of Ag Retailer grower meetings to talk about conservation program opportunities. The specialist will go door to door following up with growers who express interest at the meetings attended by the specialist in Adams, Allen, and Wells counties. The specialist will also participate in conservation partner meetings with growers (i.e. Extension) and follow up on leads provided through these contacts. Our goal is to encourage landowners to enroll in current federal and state funded programs for cost share assistance to accelerate conservation application. The St. Mary's and Maumee watersheds will receive high priority for assistance.

## **Clark County – Water Quality Improvement Buffer Initiative**

### **Partners**

NRCS  
FSA

### **Description**

The project consists of utilizing Clean Water Indiana dollars to double the amount of water quality improvement buffers installed in Clark County compared to previous year's averages. A goal of installing over 36,000 feet of buffers this year will be accomplished by utilizing a farmer-to-farmer approach to marketing the buffer practices and the programs available to install them.

## **Crawford County – Conservation Information Program**

### **Partners**

Purdue Extension Office/Crawford  
Crawford Co Cattleman's Association  
NRCS  
Crawford County Highway Department

Floyd County SWCD  
NACD  
Lincoln Hills RC&D

### **Description**

The project serves to inform and educate the general public, students and land users on natural resource on conservation issues, conservation measures to address those issues and opportunities available for technical and financial assistance through various county, state and federal agencies and programs. The Crawford County Soil and Water Conservation District proposes to accomplish these activities by planning and hosting two field days (Cattleman's and no-till), two educational workshops (Riverwatch and Septic System 101), developing a web-site, and by distributing informational material through SWCD quarterly newsletter, our local newspaper, WBRO Radio and Channel 2 Television thereby establishing the SWCD as a clearinghouse for natural resource conservation information. Information for Cattleman and no-till field days will be left at local business in the area to help promote the events.

## **Daviess County – Wind and Water Erosion Initiative**

### **Partners**

NRCS  
Daviess County Cooperative Extension

Daviess County Farm Bureau Inc  
Agri Businesses

### **Description**

Northwest Daviess County is subject to very sandy soils which cause several unique problem issues, including wind erosion, residual nitrogen loss and water erosion. The Daviess County SWCD proposes to address these problems by developing a comprehensive conservation program to increase no-till cropping systems, cover crops and other appropriate technical practices as the availability of well as available federal and state conservation programs (CRP, EQIP, etc).

## **Fayette County – Conservation Tillage & Variable Rate Field Day**

### **Partners**

Crop Production Services  
Consolidated Grain & Barge  
College Corner Imp.  
Pioneer, Kenny Jobe  
Larry Orr Insurance  
Union Co. Co-Op  
Garst Seed Company  
Dow Agrisciences  
Lane Excavating  
Harvestland Co-Op  
Mycogen Seeds  
Koons Auction & Realty  
Gough's Auto Repair  
Becks; John Weiler, Ryan Mcallister

McFarland Construction  
Tim McFarland Construction  
Agrigold  
Syngenta  
Moffett Excavating  
Fayette Feed  
Farm Bureau Ins.  
Dupont  
Fraley Truck & Implement  
Bayer Crop Science  
Gulley's Body Shop  
UCNB  
Coon Excavating  
Ag Re Plan LLC

### **Description**

To promote the use of conservation tillage and implementing new technology for better placement of fertilizer to improve both soil and water quality by reducing erosion, over-application of fertilizer and nutrient run-off. We would also like to increase networking among local farmers who are currently using conservation tillage and technological advance on there farms with farmers who would like to learn more and implement these practices themselves.

## **Floyd County – Eradication of Invasive Species**

### **Partners**

New Albany - Floyd County Parks  
The Nature Conservancy

### **Description**

In conjunction with the New Albany-Floyd County Parks Department we would physically work to eradicate approximately 1 acre of tree-of-heaven on forest land that has recently been acquired for a new park. We would also hold a field day at that site to help inform the public about invasive plants in Indiana and how to help control or eradicate them.

## **Gibson County – CREP Promotion**

### **Partners**

NRCS  
ISDA

### **Description**

This marketing program will make landowners aware of the possible funding for projects with Pigeon/Highland CREP. The project will sponsor the promotion of CREP with news materials and several other methods of communication.

1. Develop and mail a full page color brochure of CREP practices, incentives and contact information to 976 farms in spring of 2007. There will be a follow up mailing near the end of CREP signup deadline in fall of 2007.
2. Media releases to local papers and newsletters.
3. Inform the public at SWCD events like county fair, annual meeting and field days.

## **Gibson County – Buffer Blitz**

### **Partners**

Gibson County Highway Department  
Gibson Co. Solid Waste District  
NRCS

Gibson Co. Surveyor  
Gibson Co. Drainage Board

### **Description**

The SWCD Gibson County Buffer Blitz will promote grass buffers between fields, bridges and the roadways where there is potential sediment, herbicides and insecticides entering the waterways. The program will also assist with public safety at intersections and 90 degree turns. The promotion will not be tied to, but can be used to compliment, NRCS and CREP programs.

Agriculture landowners will be paid a one time incentive cost of \$25 for new buffer strips. An additional one time seeding cost of \$20 for enhanced establishment during the 2007 year will be paid. The buffer payment will be determined by the size of the buffer. The supervisors' continuance of the program in 2008 will not promote the first time incentive cost but will continue the additional seeding expenses and annual payment. The program will be promoted by the SWCD making colorful attractive flyers, program information and displays for public events.

## **Hamilton County – CREP Marketing Program**

### **Description**

The entire area of Hamilton County (256,000 acres) is located within an eligible CREP watershed, the Upper White River. However, the efforts of the SWCD will be focused on marketing CREP in the area of most need, which is the northern 1/2 of the county. The majority of the agricultural areas and corresponding opportunities are located within this community. Our goal is to get the word out about this great opportunity to put conservation on the ground, and that landowners can actually receive a financial incentive for implementing these conservation practices. Although we have already had some success in promoting CREP on our own, the SWCD would like to step up our efforts through this grant opportunity.

## **Harrison County – Ag Field Day**

### **Partners**

NRCS  
DNR Forester  
Harrison County Cooperative Extension

Farm Bureau  
The Nature Conservation

### **Description**

We plan to have an agriculture field day to help inform land users and the general public about the need and ways to conserve and protect our natural resources. The program will include information pertaining to assistance available for technical and financial assistance from county, state and federal programs. The attendance at the last Harrison County SWCD field day was about 300 people.

## **Jasper County – Water Quality Awareness Project**

### **Partners**

Jasper County Planning & Development  
Jasper County Health Department

### **Description**

In the year 2000, the drinking water wells in one out of three homes in an established subdivision in Rensselaer tested positive for coliform bacteria; measurable nitrate levels have been found in groundwater; CAFO's with more than 30,000 dairy cows have been established in the last five years in our watersheds; and suburban sprawl from the Chicago-land area has increased the population in Jasper County at twice the rate of the statewide average since the last census. Clearly, land use change is evident in our county.

In 2004, both major watersheds in Jasper County, the Iroquois and Kankakee, were identified as being impaired by non-point source pollution by IDEM. Trends have shown that Jasper County will continue to grow and develop at an exponential rate; therefore, with our goal to realize the vision of the Indiana Conservation Partnership in protecting our drinking water and improving water quality, it is imperative that we begin by establishing baseline water quality data and assisting our citizens in gaining awareness and knowledge about the impacts of land use on our precious water resources.

## **Jay County – Conservation Tillage Awareness & Options**

### **Partners**

ISDA  
NRCS  
Purdue Cooperative Extension Service  
Hull Bros. Equipment  
Troxel Equipment

K&L Tractor Sales  
Affolder Equipment  
Evolution Farm Systems  
USDA/FSA

### **Description**

Promote no-till/minimum till through a Conservation Tillage Field Day encouraging landowners/producers to enroll in NRCS Programs. In 2005 Jay County had 19% (13,602 acres) in no-till corn and 57% (46,474 acres) in no-till soybeans. Neighboring counties had more no-till acres planted, we feel the lack of public awareness and knowledge of no-till account for Jay County's reduced percentages. This Field Day will be conducted in a county landowner's acreage, in August after the harvest of wheat, with a educational presentation by a knowledgeable individual (Barry Fisher, NRCS, if available) followed by actual demonstration of the tillage equipment provided by Implement Dealers. Due to the timeframe required for this event, a meal would be provided to those in attendance. The Field Day will take place in a field w/o shelter or facilities thus necessitating the rental of tent and port-o-pot. Anticipate involvement/attendance of 75-100 individuals.

## **Jennings County – Conservation Program Marketing**

### **Description**

In an effort to promote conservation, the Jennings County SWCD will be purchasing a 6 ft by 31/2 ft, two sided outdoor sign and securing a site in conjunction with the Jennings County Government agencies website. The outdoor sign will have an interchangeable message that is easily customized to fit the event. It will be used to advertise field days, program sign up dates, SWCD Annual Meeting and other conservation related dates. The website will provide conservation information to an unlimited number of people. This site will have a wide variety of conservation topics, such as: SWCD Long Range Business Plan, equipment rental, conservation product sales, education programs, federal, state and local cost share programs, SWCD board information, newsletters; etc.

## **Johnson County – Ag Conservation Program Specialist**

### **Partners**

Johnson County Government

### **Description**

A full time Agriculture Conservation Program Specialist to market Federal NRCS Cost share programs. To increase the NRCS cost share programs awareness, use, and implementation in Johnson County. Approved funding match by Johnson County Government in the County Council Budget for 2007 for 50 percent of salary.

## **Kosciusko County – Conservation Connection**

### **Partners**

NRCS  
Purdue Cooperative Extension

### **Description**

Due to its large and diverse natural resource base, Kosciusko County has many challenges and opportunities for conservation efforts. In addition to the standard cadre of USDA conservation programs, many unique conservation programs are available to the county including LARE, CSP, and CREP. Informing the public about the need for and availability of conservation practices and programs will be the focus of this grant. Utilizing several marketing and educational tools, an outreach coordinator will develop a conservation marketing plan and lead its implementation.

## **Lawrence County – C-29, Filter Strips, Heavy Use Area Protection, and Timber Stand Improvement Continuous Marketing for Cost-share Dollars**

### **Partners**

Lawrence County Farm Service Agency  
NRCS  
IDNR

### **Description**

Existing federal and state programs provide cost-share incentives to landowners. However, the availability of these programs is often unknown to many eligible landowners with conservation needs. We propose to employ staff time, advertising, and field days in order to promote the planning and implementation of conservation practices in the areas of CP-29, Filter Strips, Heavy Use Area Protection, and Timber Stand Improvement. We will especially target areas of the county known to be sensitive to erosion, such as areas near or adjacent to perennial streams and water bodies and karst areas which contribute to ground water.

## **Morgan County – Workshop Series**

### **Partners**

NRCS & FSA District Support  
Purdue Extension Service  
DNR - District Wildlife Biologist  
Local Forestry Consultants  
Morgan County Farm Bureau

County Parks & Recreation Districts  
Maple Turn Utilities  
Fallwood Nature Center  
South Central Indiana REMC

### **Description**

Morgan County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) is submitting a funding request to support a conservation workshop series. The series will host four workshops, one workshop each quarter throughout 2007:

1. Tree Selection and Planting- A local forester to speak to the topic as well as provide answers to citizen's tree/forestry questions. Participants will receive a tree seedling for attending. This particular workshop will kick off Morgan County SWCD's first annual tree seedlings sale. All funds raised will support future creative conservation programming. SWCD will seek additional financial sponsorship for this workshop from various local wood industries.
2. Warm Season Grasses / Planting and Management -This program will inform and educate all levels of planting and maintenance of warm season grasses. The District Wildlife Biologist is willing to offer expert assistance with this workshop. The workshop will be held on farm property offering opportunity for grass burn demonstrations as well as proper usage of grass drills. Morgan County SWCD office will make known the grass drill rental availability as well as promote NRCS and FSA cost-share programs, CRP & WHIP
3. Buffer Strips and Wildlife Habitats - The workshop will focus on Morgan County's Quail Habitat Priority program sharing purpose for and added benefits of buffer strips in regards to wildlife. SWCD will partner with REMC of Central Indiana and the District Biologist, Josh Griffin to sponsor the event providing funding and expertise for quail habitats to county citizen's thus supporting participation in NRCS and FSA cost share programs and REMC's financial support for quail habitat.
4. Invasive Species - A field expert will be invited to speak on invasive species with an emphasis on removal of invasive and replacement with native species. All participants will receive a packet of native wildflower seeds.

## **Orange County – Forestry Management Timber Stand Improvement & Marketing Incentive**

### **Partners**

DNR – Division of Forestry  
White River RC&D

Orange County Extension Office  
NRCS

### **Description**

The Orange Co SWCD has identified forestry as a critical natural resource issue within the county. The county's forest land is 72% privately owned. The supervisors and staff, along with other partnering organizations, have created a plan to help educate the county on the importance of use guidelines to maintain and manage our forests. Farm Bill and other conservation programs such as EQIP, CRP, WHIP and LARE will also be promoted to increase the number of practices such as riparian forest buffer, bottomland timber establishment and timber stand improvement. We are planning a "Forestry Field Day" in June 2007 and putting together information in a bag to distribute to landowners regarding Federal and State cost-share assistance programs, the use of yard chemicals and pesticides, the benefits of trees and other vegetation near karsts areas, and other informative brochures throughout the year. Educating our landowners will help them understand the importance of conserving our area's water resources, protecting our land against soil erosion and managing our forest to enhance high quality timber.



## **Owen County – Coffee and Conservation**

### **Partners**

Local Food Markets

### **Description**

A series of short, informal seminars focusing on a variety of topics. Guest speakers will present a short program on the topic of the day with plenty of time given for peer interaction.

## **Perry County – Anderson River Water Quality Initiative**

### **Partners**

Perry Co. Cattle Association  
Perry Co. Extension Service  
Lincoln Hills Fish & Wildlife Committee  
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Indiana Regional 15  
Anderson River Steering Committee  
Local Ag Businesses

### **Description**

Anderson River Water Quality Initiative will address water quality in the Anderson River Watershed by:

1. Keeping livestock from streams through livestock fencing, alternative watering systems and stream crossings
2. By increasing buffer/filter strips and waterways throughout Perry County. In addition, we will also increase small game (rabbits, quail, songbirds, etc.) throughout the county by establishing buffer strips. To do this, the Perry County SWCD and its partners will develop a comprehensive initiative geared towards marketing available water quality practice, technical assistance, and USDA cost-share funding.

## **Pike County – Pike county Conservation Initiative**

### **Partners**

USDA-NRCS  
USDA – FSA  
Purdue CES

Local Media – The Press Dispatch  
Agribusinesses

### **Description**

We propose to utilize staff time, host educational events and advertise to promote conservation practices and federal and state programs related to the conservation of soil erosion and the enhancement of wildlife habitat. Key practices to be promoted through these activities would include no-till and conservation tillage, warm season grasses, filter strips, grassed waterways and water and sediment control basins (WASCOBs).

## **Posey County – CREP Marketing Program**

### **Partners**

ISDA – CREP Coordinator  
NRCS  
Local Landowners

### **Description**

The District will devote staff time to this project to

1. Create educational and promotional materials to direct mail to landowners in this watershed
2. Organize public informational meetings with the assistance of the CREP coordinator
3. Promote the CREP project through articles in District newsletter and county newspapers
4. Increase the knowledge of available state and federal conservation programs



## **Spencer County – Soil, Water & Habitat Initiative**

### **Partners**

Ducks Unlimited  
Quails Unlimited  
Spencer County Extension Service  
USDA/NRCS  
USDA/FSA

Miles Farm Service  
IDNR - Forestry  
IDNR – Fish and Wildlife  
South Spencer High School FFA

### **Description**

Spencer County SWCD proposes to employ staff time, educational events and informational outreach to promote the planning and implementation of conservation practices used to address soil erosion (i.e. no-till & high-residue systems, cover crops, crop rotation), water quality improvement (i.e. field borders, filter strips, buffers areas), and wildlife habitat. To do this the SWCD, staff and cooperating partners will promote needed conservation practices addressing these concerns, as well as federal cost-share programs such as EQIP, CRP, WHIP, and WRP. Our proposed project will not only help residents address erosion, water quality and wildlife habitat concerns through the establishment of needed conservation practices, but will also improve landowners' chances of approval for higher "tiers" when they apply for Conservation Security Program (CSP) when it becomes available in Spencer County.

## **Tippecanoe County – Wildcat Creek Buffers**

### **Partners**

Tipmont Envirowatts Grant  
Indiana Smallmouth Conservation  
IDEM

Wildcat Creek Foundation  
Wildcat Creek Guardians

### **Description**

Establishing Conservation Buffers along the Wildcat Creek in Tippecanoe County - Buffers are a critical conservation practice needed to improve water quality and wildlife habitat. This effort is designed to increase the number of riparian buffers and filter strips along Wildcat Creek in Tippecanoe County. Planting trees along water bodies has not been a popular practice in this watershed for a number of reasons. This program is designed to mitigate those issues. Conservation Buffers will be marketed to landowners who own land that lacks a buffer adjacent to the stream.

## **Tipton County – Marketing Filter Strips**

### **Partners**

NRCS  
FSA  
Tipton County Drainage Board

### **Description**

Tipton County Soil and Water Conservation District plans to identify, educate, and inform 50 to 75 (or more) landowners of the importance of water quality and conservation as it relates to the benefits of establishing vegetated filter strips along open water ways within the county. This is to be accomplished by the following methods:

1. Identify landowners who would benefit from a filter strip program
2. Design an attractive and educational brochure
3. Mail brochure and personalized letter from the supervisors to the targeted individuals
4. Personally follow-up with those who received the material to answer questions and invite them to a special informative seminar
5. Conduct an educational seminar relating to filter strip benefits and explain the incentive program to encourage implementation
6. Distribute incentive payment to landowners upon completion of implementation
7. Evaluate success of grant

## **Vanderburgh County – CREP Marketing Program**

### **Partners**

ISDA  
NRCS

### **Description**

This program is designed to inform agricultural landowners of the availability of the Pigeon/Highland CREP. The project generates informational resources to market the CREP in Vanderburgh County. Several avenues will be used for promotion:

1. Create and mail a full page color brochure of CREP practices, incentives and contact information to 1250 landowners and operators in March of 2007. A second mailing occur near the signup deadline in September 2007.
2. Create and link proposed Vanderburgh CREP website to existing SWCD site.
3. Press releases
4. Promotion at SWCD events such as field days and annual meeting.

## **Washington County – Livestock Water quality Promotion**

### **Partners**

Washington County Purdue Extension  
NRCS  
White River Nutrient Committee  
Nature Conservancy - Blue River Project  
Beck Seed

Cattlemen's Association  
Farm Bureau - Jackson & Jennings  
White River RC&D  
Quail Unlimited  
Davis Equipment

### **Description**

The goal of the Washington Co. SWCD is to protect surface and ground water quality from environmental damage by targeting livestock feeding areas located near or adjacent to perennial streams and bodies of water and karst areas. The SWCD will accomplish this by hiring a part-time Coordinator to promote education sources such as: Best Management Practices (BMP), Federal Programs including Crop Rotation Program (CRP); Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP); Conservation Security Program (CSP). The SWCD will also provide a cash incentive of \$500 per project for the installation of heavy use feeding pads or alternative water source/supply. The Coordinator will coordinate with local agriculture agencies and feed/fertilize dealers to present three (3) field days. The field days will inform and demonstrate to livestock owners what the programs and practices can do and what can be obtain by implementing them.

## **Wayne County – Cover Crop Promotion**

### **Partners**

NRCS  
Friends of Middle Fork

Oregon Ryegrass Commission

### **Description**

This five-year program will promote the planting of cover crops throughout Wayne County. The Wayne County SWCD is proposing a program which will provide cost-share monies to a maximum rate of \$10/acre on 50 acres with a maximum payment of \$500 per landowner/renter. Those joining the program and will sign a three-year commitment to the cover crop initiative will receive enough seed to plant up to 50 acres of highly erodible cropland during the first year of the program. The following two years, the landowner/rent will be responsible for continuing the purchase of seed and planting the cover crops on the same amount of ground enrolled in the program. This project will expand upon the current Wayne County SWCD agricultural demonstration plots. Funding will cover seed costs and promotional costs for design, printing, and mailing brochures. A traveling display will also be purchased and used at many annual events to promote the project.

## **Wells County – Cover Crop and Temporary Cover Promotion**

### **Description**

The Wells Co. SWCD will promote the use of cover crops and temporary cover to reduce the amount of pollution entering our streams and rivers. The Wells Co. SWCD will develop and incentive program that will encourage local landowners to establish cover crop and temporary cover seedings.

## **White County – Marketing Technician**

### **Partners**

White County Council  
NRCS – CIT Team

FSA - CRP  
ISDA - CREP

### **Description**

This person will be responsible for marketing conservation within White County by:

1. Determining local concerns
2. Informing landowners/operators of available programs and practices
3. Assisting interested landowners through the conservation program process
4. Installing conservation practices
5. Utilizing conservation practices which are being established as a marketing tool for the CREP watershed and the County. Approximately 90% of White County lies within the Tippecanoe River CREP Watershed.

## **Whitley County – Marketing Technician**

### **Partners**

Purdue Cooperative Extension Service  
NRCS

Whitley County Government

### **Description**

The Whitley County Soil and Water Conservation District would like to hire a full time Program Marketing/Technical person with an emphasis on program marketing. We want the land users in our county to be aware and educated about the various programs that are available such as Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Conservation Security Program (CSP), Wetland Reserve Program (WRP), Timber Stand Improvement, Wildlife Habitat, the benefits of filter strips and buffer strips, and many others. We want the landowners in Whitley County to be ready when CSP comes to their watershed area. We want to be able to work with the new landowners that are moving into our county, who have only 10 to 40 acres. There are so many things they could be doing to enhance their limited acres such as wetlands or by planting trees and native grasses to attract wildlife to their property.

## **Unique Partnerships**

## **Carroll, Clinton, Howard, Tippecanoe & Warren Counties – Conservation Tillage Continuing Education Program**

### **Partners**

Greater Wabash River RC&D  
Carroll and Clinton County Cooperative Extension

### **Description**

This project will impact the 5 county area of Carroll, Clinton, Howard, Warren and Tippecanoe Counties. We wish to educate and entice landowners in the practice of no till (or lo till) in our watershed and the beneficial impacts it will have on their farming operations and the environment. We will also afford our residents the opportunity to fulfill their need for Private Applicator Recertification Program (PARP) credit hours and Certified Crop Advisor's (CCA) through Certified Commercial Handler (CCH) continuing education credits.

## **Clay and Putnam Counties – Conservation Expo & Cover crop Field Day**

### **Partners**

Conservation Solutions  
Schopmeyer Farm Supply  
Chrisman Farm Supply  
Growers CO-OP

Pioneer Seed Corn  
Shelburn Grain  
Youngblood Farms  
Sycamore Trails RC&D

### **Description**

This Project will be to form a partnership of the Putnam County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Clay County Soil and Water Conservation District to host a field day. Putnam County has hosted the Conservation Expo for several years with a lot of success and we would like to join our neighbors in their effort to educate landowners about conservation tillage.

## **Jackson County - PlotMaster**

### **Partners**

NRCS  
Purdue Cooperative Extension Service

Farm Service Agency  
The Jackson County Banner

### **Description**

Celebrate Conservation - Enhancing and raising awareness of the Jackson County Soil and Water Conservation District and what they can do for you through informing and educating local government officials and the general public on the importance of soil and water resources and conservation practices.

## **Sullivan and Greene Counties – Birds in the Buff**

### **Partners**

Quail Unlimited  
Sycamore Trails RC&D  
Sullivan County Highway Dept.  
Greene County Highway Dept.

NRCS  
FSA  
IDNR  
ISDA

### **Description**

"Birds in the Buff 2007" would be a continuation of the 2006 project. The conservation practices to be marketed will be wildlife friendly filter strips and field borders. This marketing program promotes already existing Federal and State programs. The Conservation Reserve Program, CP 33, encourages farmers to install 30 to 120 feet of wildlife friendly buffer strips and borders along their streams and edges of their fields. Sullivan and Greene Counties have a goal of contracting 850 acres of buffer stripes in the two counties. This project was granted CWI funding in the 2006 round of grants. At this time, August 25, 2006, the project is just beginning to get underway due to contract and startup delays. The SWCD staff and been compiling the marketing materials and the steering committee has been interviewing for the technician positions. It is anticipated that the technicians will be in place and ready to start promoting the buffer strips by Oct. 1, 2006. The technicians will work through the winter so that the landowners will be ready to start installing practices in the spring of 2007. This program needs to be continued for several years to realize its effectiveness.

## **Tippecanoe County – Warm Season Grass Drill Program**

### **Partners**

Tipmont REMC  
Wildcat Creek Foundation

IDEM  
Wildcat Guardians

### **Description**

A warm season grass drill will be purchased for the establishment of filter strips, buffers, and wildlife habitat in Tippecanoe County. The SWCD will purchase a Truax FLEX Drill, model FLXII-812 (8') and a supply of native seed and herbicide to aid landowners in the establishment of conservation buffers. The SWCD received a Tipmont REMC EnviroWatts for \$10,000 towards the purchase of a drill earlier this year. If a CWI grant is awarded, the drill will be purchased this fall. The goal is to get landowners who are cropping land within 120' of a stream to take the area out of crop production and plant the area to a conservation buffer.

## **Vanderburgh County – Howell Wetlands Restoration**

### **Partners**

Wesselman Nature Society  
City of Evansville

ISDA  
NRCS

### **Description**

The Vanderburgh County SWCD would like to provide resources and technical assistance to assist with a 35-acre urban wetland restoration project in Vanderburgh County. Two earthen dams will be renovated to improve water management capabilities in the wetlands. The wetlands drain 365 acres of urban land, and are important for slowing, storing, and filtering storm water runoff and septic and wastewater inputs before it enters the neighboring streams. They are also important for wildlife habitat, community green space, and education. The improvements will provide better control of water levels, improving wildlife habitat, water quality, and the integrity of the wetland system, while reducing soil erosion and flooding downstream.

## **Vigo, Clay, Parke, Sullivan & Vermillion Counties – Partners for Reclamation**

### **Partners**

IDNR Division of Reclamation  
Sycamore Trails RC&D

### **Description**

Vigo, Clay, Sullivan, Parke, and Vermillion County SWCDs; Sycamore Trails RC&D Council, IDNR Division of Reclamation, and private landowners will work together in reclaiming abandoned coal mining sites in the five counties that are degrading water quality of streams and lakes with sediment, iron oxides, and acid drainage.

## **Wells, Adams & Huntington Counties – Warm Season Grass Drill Program**

### **Partners**

IDNR Division of Fish and Wildlife

### **Description**

Purchase a warm season grass drill to increase participation in the CRP program, specifically targeting Filter Strips and CP-33 (Habitat Buffers for Upland Birds) practices.